

Review all safety advice on page 10. Carry a map and warm clothes. Orient yourself before heading out and tell someone where you are going.

The Foothills

These lower elevations offer wonderful winter visits—green and usually snowless!

Foothills Visitor Center: 8am-4:30pm.

Hospital Rock Picnic Area

Exhibits about the Western Mono people who once lived here. A short trail built by the Civilian Conservation Corps leads to a cascade. Careful; drownings often occur here! Always store food to keep it away from bears.

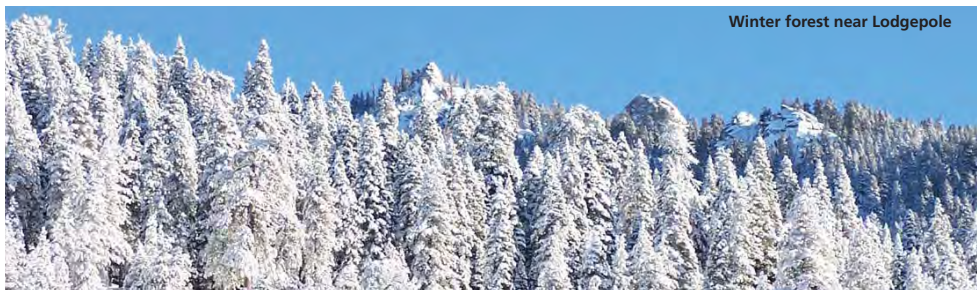
Marble Falls Trail climbs 3.7 miles (6 km) to a waterfall. Park across the highway from Potwisha (no non-camper parking in campground). Near site #14, follow a dirt road across a concrete ditch; the trail starts along the steep bank to the right.

Paradise Creek

At Buckeye Flat Campground, take the path across from site #28 across the footbridge over the Middle Fork. Follow Paradise Creek (not the Middle Fork) for 1½ miles (1.6 km) until the trail grows faint.

Mineral King

Open late spring through October, weather permitting. The steep road ends at 7800', the park's highest road. Trails there lead to the High Sierra. Weather can be severe; get a weather report before going. No gasoline or electricity in the area. Until spring, the road is gated at the park boundary (about 9 miles from Hwy 198); for a pass through this first gate, ask at the Foothills Visitor Center.



Giant Forest & Lodgepole

Winter parking is across from the closed Giant Forest Museum. Closest restroom is at the Sherman Tree. Once snow accumulates, rent snowshoes and cross-country skis at Wuksachi Lodge. Snowshoe walks may be offered on weekends (page 5).

Lodgepole Visitor Center

Friday-Monday 9am-4:30pm (daily 12/23-1/2 & starting in April). See page 2.

Moro Rock/Crescent Meadow Road

This 3-mile (5 km), dead-end road closes in winter to become a ski and snowshoe trail. It begins at Giant Forest Museum on Generals Highway and ends at Crescent Meadow. Walkers and snowshoers: Please don't walk in ski tracks. Highlights:

- Moro Rock: A granite dome with a steep 1/4-mile (.4 km) staircase to the summit (300 foot / 91 m elevation gain). Don't climb if any ice or snow is on the stairs; it is very dangerous. Spectacular views. 2 miles (3.2 km) from the Generals Highway.
- Tunnel Log: A fallen sequoia that was tunneled through. 2 miles (3.2 km) from the Generals Highway.

- Crescent Meadow: Several walking and ski trails connect here. It is 1 mile (1.6 km) from here to Tharp's Log.

General Sherman Tree

As long as conditions permit, the upper trail and parking stay open (take the Wolverton Road between the Sherman Tree and Lodgepole and follow signs). From there you walk down to the tree. Once much snow flies, access to the world's largest tree is only from the parking area along the Generals Highway. The trail from there may not be plowed; snow is usually packed down enough to walk on it. If the upper trail is too steep, you can walk down and have someone pick you up at the lower parking area on the Generals Highway.

Big Trees Trail

Walk or ski this 2/3-mile (1 km) trail (no yellow markers) that circles Round Meadow. Colorful trailside panels describe sequoia ecology.



Snowplay Areas

Wolverton

Sledding hill at the end of Wolverton Road, two miles (3.2 km) north of the Sherman Tree (see page 8). After storms, plows open the main road first, so it may take hours to open this road. Pay telephone is located outside the building next to the restrooms. Snowplay is prohibited in the Sherman Tree Trail area.

Grant Grove

Use Big Stump & Columbine picnic areas (see page 9). Snowplay is prohibited in the Grant Tree Trail area. Azalea Campground is for campers only, not people who are just snowplaying. Pay telephones are located at visitor center, market, & gift shop.

Free Winter Holiday Shuttle

Shuttle Schedule

- November 22-25 (Thursday-Sunday)
- December 26-January 1 (Wednesday-Tuesday)

Shuttles run every 15 minutes between the Sherman Tree parking area along the Generals Highway, Lodgepole Village, and Wuksachi Lodge from 10am - 3:30pm daily. Additional stops may be offered. Restrooms available at each stop.

